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9:13 AM -- 1 December 1986

Note To: Director of Information Technology

25X1

From: _____

Executive Assistant to the DDA

Subject: Request for Support to OP/Employment

Ed:

1. I'm sending this note to request additional OIT support for the Office of Personnel.

2. Several months ago an informal deal was struck between the ADDA and OD&E. (I'm not sure about the genesis of this arrangement.) OD&E offered to work with the Office of Personnel to develop a computer model for the Agency's applicant processing pipeline. The ADDA accepted this offer. Starting in September, a small OD&E team of staff and contractors interviewed dozens of people in OP, OS, and OMS to document the pipeline process. In the last two weeks the team analyzed the data and developed a conceptual model. They briefed the DDA and ADDA last week and obtained concurrence to continue the development of a computer model.

3. During the briefing, the OD&E team asked the DDA for support from OIT in several areas:

a. They want help in building an interface between the OD&E model and the CAPS database so that they can extract CAPS data on a periodic basis to feed the model.

b. They want OIT's participation in the design review of the model.

c. They want OIT to maintain and support the model after its delivery.

The DDA tentatively agreed to these requests. He asked me to arrange the support through you.

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4. I spoke with _____ about this last week and asked how best to make this request. He suggested an AIM note to you.

5. I feel certain that OIT's role in this effort is negotiable. My personal recommendation (wearing my OIT hat) would be to agree to work with OD&E to develop the CAPS-model interface, to maintain that interface, and to participate in the model design review. I'd recommend that you suggest that, since OD&E built the computer model, then they should support it. An alternative would be for OIT to agree to develop the model using the data gathered by OD&E.

6. I have numerous technical concerns about the OD&E approach to the model. First, it is designed to predict the future based on the past.

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(Hence the need for CAPS data to feed it.) Second, it is designed to hardwire most of the options, rather than making them user-selectable. And third, the model will be written in FORTRAN, rather than any of the excellent modelling languages (DYNAMO, GPSS, CSMP, etcetera). I expressed these concerns during the briefing, but they fell on deaf OD&E ears.

    7. Please let me know your reaction to this request as soon as practical. The OD&E model is scheduled to have a design review in

25X1   January and be delivered in March. The primary customer would be

25X1   the DD of Personnel for Employment.

Jim

CC: DD/OIT
      C/MD/OIT
      C/MISG/OIT

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